

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JUNE 3, 1858.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. IVERSON submitted the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Claims have examined the case of Michael Nourse, claiming compensation for certain services rendered at the request of Mr. Whittlesey, First Comptroller of the Treasury, in 1853, and have come to the conclusion that the prayer of the petitioner ought not to be granted. It seems that the examination amongst the records, made by the petitioner, was voluntary upon his part, made to oblige his friend, Mr. Whittlesey, and without any authority of law, *direction* of any government officer, or any promise of compensation. Although Mr. Nourse acted very cleverly in the matter, and deserves the thanks of the government, yet there is no legal or equitable claim upon the government for compensation for services thus gratuitously rendered. The committee ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the case.

